

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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SECOND MEXICAN MAN SENTENCED FOR METH CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Mexican man was sentenced in federal court today for participating in a conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine.

Carlos Alaniz-Montano, 27, a citizen of Mexico, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Fernando J. Gaitan, Jr., this morning to 20 years in federal prison without parole.

On Feb. 18, 2004, a federal jury found **Alaniz-Montano** and co-defendant **Teodoro Orozco-Castillo**, 34, also of Mexico, guilty of both counts contained in a federal indictment. The jury convicted both defendants of conspiracy to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine between Sept. 1 and Oct. 1, 2003. The jury also convicted both defendants of being in possession of 50 grams or more of methamphetamine on Sept. 30, 2003. Both defendants were sentenced to 20 years in federal prison without parole on each of the two counts, Graves said, with those sentences to be served concurrently.

Alaniz-Montano was arrested on Sept. 30, 2003, after being pulled over by a Kansas City, Mo., police officer when he was driving above the speed limit while running through stop signs without stopping. **Orozco-Castillo** was a passenger in the car driven by **Alaniz-Montano**. Following **Alaniz-Montano**'s arrest, Graves said, officers searched the vehicle and found a package containing 526 grams of methamphetamine beneath the passenger seat.

Alaniz-Montano expected to be paid \$11,000 for delivering the methamphetamine to a nearby house, Graves said.

Orozco-Castillo, who has been deported from the United States three times, was sentenced on May 12, 2004, to 20 years in federal prison without parole.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael S. Oliver. It was investigated by the Kansas City Metropolitan Drug Task Force and the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow